other shippers as per the current Export and Import Policy.

(c) Under the Liberalised Industrial Policy, several critical industries including iron ore based industries are being encouraged by Government.

Scheme for increase in export of goods and services

3677. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been prepared to increase the scope of Indian goods and services in foreign countries,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when the said scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) to (c) Several changes in trade policy were introduced since July 1991 armed at strengthening export incentives, eliminating a substantial volume of import licensing and rationalising the import tariff structure. Rupee has been made partially convertible to encourage generation of foreign exchange. These steps have been further consolidated in the new Export Import Policy which, *inter-alia* aims to promote productivity, modernisation and competitiveness of Indan industry and thereby enhance its export capabilities.

Special import licences for import of bulk of items

3678. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated and issued guidelines for issue of special import licences in the wake of liberalisation of import of bulk of items;

(b) if so, what are the details of the new guidelines; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The detailed guidelines are being worked out and will be announced separately.

Export of diamonds and other jewellery

3679. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of diamonds and other jewellery has considerably declined during 1991-92 as compared to 1989-90;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the position of diamond and other jewellery exports during the current financial year;

(d) what is the share of Madhya Pradesh in exporting diamonds and other jewellery during the last three years; and

(e) what action Government propose to take to improve the export of diamonds and other jewellery from the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) While there is no decline in the export of diamond and jewellery during 1991-92 as compared to 1989-90 in rupee terms there is a decline in US dollar terms only in Diamonds. The details are:

Item	1989-90		1991-92	
	Rs. Cr.	US$ Mil	Rs. Cr.	US$ Mil.
Diamonds	4971.93	2986.28	6162.64	2499.85
Jewellery	296.44	178.04	766.88	311.07

(Source:GJEPC)

(Exchange Rate: US$ 1 = Rs. 16.6492 (1989-90) & Rs. 24.6520 (1991-92)

Firm figures for the current financial year are not available. However, provisional estimates of the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council indicate that during the period April—June, 1992 exports were Rs. 1691.44 crores as compared to Rs. 1215.05 crores during the same period last year. This marks an increase of 39.20% in rupee terms and 19.42% in USA dollar terms.

(d) The export of diamonds and other jewellery items is not accounted for on State to State basis.

(e) The new Export Import Policy implemented from 1st of April, 1992 has simplified the procedures for the import of raw materials and export of diamonds and jewellery. Special Schemes facilitating the duty free import of raw materials have been made available to exporters. Alongwith the State Bank of India, the Minerals and Metal Trading Corporation has been nominated for the duty free import of gold to meet the gold import requirement of exporters in the Domestic Tariff Area. A provision has also been made for the import of capital goods at concessional rates of customs duty to facilitate technological upgradation. Exporters are also assisted for participation in joint exhibitions and for sending delegations for market surveys in foreign markets.

Export of flowers

3680. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2721 given in the Rajya Sabha on 4th August, 1992 and state:

(a) the quantum of flower exported during 1991 and 1992 as on date; and

(b) if so, the names of those countries and the manner in which Government propose to meet their demand of flowers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) The statistics on export of flowers are maintained in terms of value. The latest available figures of export of floriculture products during the last two years are given below:

Year	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1990-91	786.67
1991-92	1316.00

The major importers of floriculture product from India are UK, USA, Germany, Netherlands, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia etc. To meet the demand of flowers from these countries, Government has taken various steps such as market development, simplification of procedures, infrastructural support etc.

बड़े डिजिटल स्विचिंग इक्वपमेंट्स के लिए निविदाएं

3681. डा० अबरार अहमद : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दूरसंचार विभाग ने दो लाख बड़े डिजिटल स्विचिंग इक्वपमेंट्स खरीदने के लिए निविदाएं आमंत्रित की थीं, और यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है तथा इस संबंध में कितनी और किन-किन कम्पनियों ने निविदाएं भेजी थी और उन्होंने निविदाओं में क्या-क्या दरें भरी थीं या इनमें से किस कंपनी की दर सबसे कम थी और किन-किन कंपनियों की निविदाओं को पहली बोली में ठीक पाया गया ;

(ख) क्या मूल्य के संबंध में उनके मंत्रालय ने कोई बातचीत की थी, और यदि हां तो उन कंपनियों के क्या-क्या नाम हैं और क्या उनके मंत्रालय ने कुछ कंपनियों को पेशकश की है यदि हां, तो उसका आधार क्या है ; और

(ग) क्या उन्हें किसी कंपनी से उनकी निविदा के संबंध में कोई अभ्यावेदन मिला है और यदि हां तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और क्या इस निविदा के लिए आदेश देते समय उनके मंत्रालय द्वारा कुछ नियमों की अनदेखी की जा रही है ?